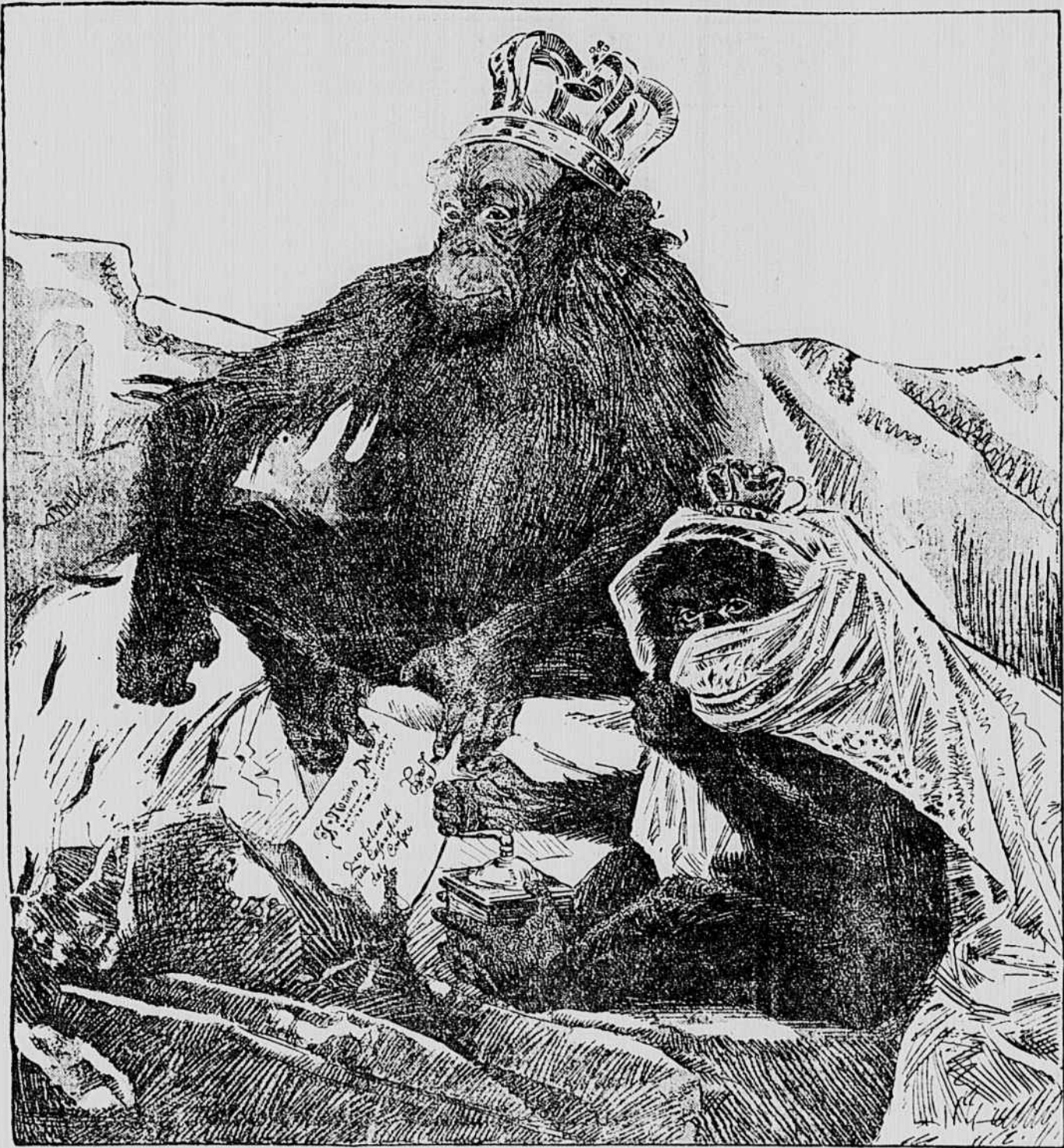


If Monkeys Had Become Men



Copyright, 1913 by the Star Company. Great Britain rights reserved.

UMAN beings KNOW that they are the successors on this earth of some animal line lower than themselves.

Life on the planet has been continuous, an unbroken chain of gradual development, from the single cell smaller than a pin-head lying in the ocean to the most highly developed human being.

Science shows how men have come up, gradually developing and progressing, the body and muscles becoming less important and the brain more important, until finally man, who had been a weak animal, found himself ruler of the world.

But we do not know just exactly WHO our ancestors were, what kind of queer man-shaped creatures preceded us.

We know that the animal most like us is the highly developed ape. We know for instance, that the difference between a high-grade white man and the lowest savage is much greater than between that lowest savage and an intelligent ape.

But just what animal was our forefather, what particular animals were the ancestors of the various great branches of the human race, we don't know.

This, however, we do know absolutely, MAN IS NOT THE DESCENDANT OF ANY KIND OF MONKEY OR ANIMAL NOW LIVING.

The animals that were men, and that grew by development of the mind to be rulers of the earth, have disappeared entirely. All of our old great-grandfathers that lived in the trees and in the caves have gone.

It will probably take centuries of research to establish our genealogy.

It is interesting, studying this picture curiously conceived, to ask ourselves what the race would have been, and what the earth would have been like, if the monkeys that we know had developed and become rulers, instead of ourselves.

In considering the monkey and his character, and what he probably would have done had he been the final ruler of animals on this planet, the artist whose picture we reproduce gives fanciful sketches of monkey life—and incidentally makes fun of our own human ambitions and weakness.

A monkey king and queen would look silly with crown and veil, and royal seal

What Should We Human Beings Be if Monkeys Were Our Ancestors? And What Is There About Us Which Proves That We Are Actually NOT the Descendants of Monkeys or Like Them? We Have One Quality Unlike the Monkey, and That Is THE POWER TO STICK AT ONE THING.

and ermine fur. But they would not look very much sillier than a human king and queen, playing the part of monkeys, imagining that fancy clothes can lend dignity or confer superiority.

The monkey painter, drawing hideous designs upon the wall, with his monkey friend looking in contempt and wonder at real art on the floor, would be a pitiful sort of a thing—but he would not be very different from some modern painter, whose work is a little more preposterous than anything that a monkey mind could conceive.

Our social idleness, our foolish social ambitions and scrivings are not so different from life in a monkey cage, where the powerful baboon drives the little, feeble monkeys around with the superiority of muscle, as the social baboon in human life drives the weak monkeys of humanity around with the superiority OF MONEY.

If monkeys were capable of thinking and planning they would probably develop a "civilization" not very much unlike our own.

Some big powerful monkey would get for himself more than he could possibly use, and thousands of little, weak monkeys would worry and starve.

The powerful monkey's wife would make a fool of herself in many kinds of monkey extravagance, vanity and folly—and the wives of weaker monkeys would worry their husbands and fret themselves trying to do everything done by the rich monkey's wife.

We should probably have in a "civilization" of developed monkeys very many of the things that we have now, cruelty, dishonesty.

We are NOT the descendants of any monkey that we know. But our so-called civilization thus far is not so different from that which monkeys might have created, IF IT WERE POSSIBLE FOR THEM TO CREATE ANYTHING.

But here is a lesson for young men who want to succeed, a lesson that is emphasized in the life of every monkey—monkeys can never do anything

worth while. Monkeys never could have become rulers of the globe, as men have become rulers, for the simple reason that monkeys CANNOT STICK AT ONE THING.

Watch a monkey in his monkey home some day for five minutes—and you will see why it is that monkeys remain monkeys, and could not become anything better.

The monkey looks fixedly into space, and you say to yourself, "He is thinking very earnestly." In a quarter of a minute his earnest look is gone and he is inspecting his left foot with care.

Another quarter of a minute and he has made a wild leap for the bars and is shaking them violently.

Then he drops to the floor, casually scratching around among the empty peanut shells.

Then he sees another monkey, pulls the monkey's tail and a race begins that lasts ten seconds. Both stop as they began, without apparent object.

And so the monkey's day and week AND LIFE pass.

The monkey is a monkey, he remained a monkey, he lost his chance of being ruler of the globe BECAUSE HE COULDN'T STICK AT THE SAME THING MORE THAN TEN SECONDS.

And, you young men that WANT to succeed, and you older men that wonder why you DON'T succeed, ask yourselves whether you are suffering from the monkey's infirmity—the inability to stick at anything for more than ten seconds.

Going to your work every day and staying for eight or ten hours isn't sticking at anything.

To be a real worker, to be one of those whose qualities made the human race the ruler of the earth, you must be able to do THAT WHICH YOU ARE NOT COMPELLED TO DO.

You must have in yourself a driving power, the power to concentrate, to stick at one thing until the thing is done.

We don't know what kind of animal gradually developing through millions of years finally gave man control of this planet,



sit up in a tree until the animal he wanted came along, and who then had the determination to kill that animal—THAT ONE ALWAYS HAD FOOD, AND HIS YOUNG ONES GOT WHAT THEY NEEDED.

Whereas those that could not think, those that could not stick and keep at a thing died off when famine came—they did not survive.

There was a cruel application of the law of the survival of the fittest in those ancient days, those days of a million years ago or more, five thousand centuries before the first real man had lighted the first real fire, before any animal had learned to make a weapon by fastening a sharp stone to the end of a stick, tying it on with the entrails of a killed enemy.

The snow would fall, or the intense heat would dry up the springs. Of a thousand of the animals that were destined to become men, nine hundred would die of cold or of thirst.

The hundred that lived WERE THE HUNDRED THAT WOULD STICK AT WHAT THEY UNDERTOOK.

They were the hundred that would keep on going through the deep snow until they found a refuge. They were the hundred that would keep plodding over the hot sand in spite of the dust and scorching sun until they found another water hole.

And their descendants are the men of to-day, men who have conquered all the animals, traveled all the seas, planted a flag at the North Pole, and at the South Pole, BECAUSE THEY COULD STICK AT A THING ONCE BEGUN.

The monkeys never could have become men and rulers of the world, because a monkey cannot stick at anything.

And a great many of us human beings never can become rulers, even of ourselves, or succeed in the world, BECAUSE WE CAN NEVER STICK AT ANYTHING.

But even the weakest of us has some will.

AND THE WEAKEST WILL CAN BE DEVELOPED BY PRACTICE.

The lesson of this picture is—

Let us not live as the monkeys live, hopping from a peanut shell to a banana skin, from the floor of the cage to the top and back again, all in a half minute. Let us take warning by the monkeys, poor creatures, that never got anywhere in the march of evolution; let us try to find out what it is that we OUGHT to do, and then STICK AT IT.

But this we do know. Whatever that animal was who stands back of us as our ancestor, he was an animal capable of exercising will power, and of sticking at one thing until the thing was accomplished.

All the newspapers in the United States have recently told the story of a man who killed five wolves and received a hundred dollars from the State, bounty offered for wolf killing.

The wolves were in a hole in a rock, and they knew that there was a man outside with a gun, and that their lives were in danger.

The man knew the wolves were in there. The question was, which would win, the man, by getting the wolves, or the wolves, by keeping away from the man.

The man MADE UP HIS MIND TO GET THE WOLVES.

He stayed there one hour, two hours, ten hours, twenty-four hours, and one day was passed.

Then he stayed another day.

Then he stayed another day.

Then he stayed a fourth day AND THEN THE WOLVES CAME OUT AND THE MAN KILLED THEM AS THEY CAME OUT AND GOT THE BOUNTY.

The man was hungry and thirsty, and the wolves were hungry and thirsty.

The man was outside and the wolves were inside.

The man got the wolves and got the bounty BECAUSE HE WAS ABLE TO STICK AT A THING, IN SPITE OF HUNGER, IN SPITE OF THIRST, DETERMINED TO GET THOSE WOLVES AND GET THE BOUNTY. THERE HE STAYED—AND HE WAS A GOOD TYPE OF THE DESCENDANTS OF THAT PRIMITIVE ANIMAL WHO WAS MAN'S ORIGINAL ANCESTOR.

You may be sure that when men were animals, with long arms and short legs, and big feet and little foreheads, years ago, they were like the men of to-day—here and there one could stick at a thing and a hundred could not.

But the one who could stick, SURVIVED, the one who had patience to